



CIVIL UNREST

Civil Unrest occurs when public disorder has the potential to cause damage or harm. Civil Unrest is often the result of ideological conflict and may include protests, riots, demonstrations, civil disobedience, and other forms of public obstruction. Not all displays of Civil Unrest are Civil Unrest Hazards. Although many expressions of Civil Unrest are safe and legal, a Civil Unrest Hazard occurs when the level of public disorder becomes a threat to health, safety, and property.



HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

There have been no Civil Unrest events in Howard County during the reviewed time period (1996-2019). Howard County has experienced unruly crowds associated with concerts or gatherings, but none of these situations have escalated beyond control.

WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

There is an expected 1-30% Chance of Annual Occurrence of a Civil Unrest scenario in Howard County. In the most likely Civil Unrest scenario, the **Total Impact** is considered **Limited**. In the worst case scenario, the **Total Impact** is considered **Significant-Critical**.

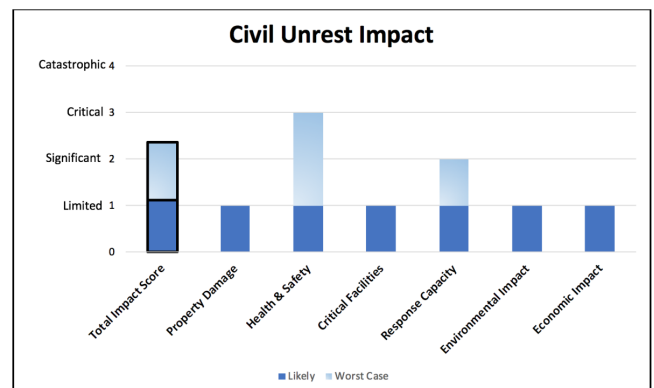
DID YOU KNOW?

- Howard County's Emergency Operations Center was activated to coordinate resources in response to the 2015 Civil Unrest in Baltimore City.
- The scale of Civil Unrest could range from a small hazard taking up less than a city block to a large riot that occupies several square miles.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- [Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency](#)

Please note, the scores for the various hazards were submitted by our subject matter experts in August 2019. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and nationwide civil unrest spanning from March 2020 to present at the time of publishing the HIRA (July 2020), subject matter experts were asked to incorporate additional feedback or update scores if applicable. These updates were incorporated into the 2020 version. The HIRA will be updated annually for these scores in order to provide the most accurate data for Howard County.



Civil Unrest Risk Profile				
	Risk Assessment Category	Likely Hazard Scenario	Worst-Case Hazard Scenario	Weight
LIKELIHOOD	Likelihood	2.8 Infrequent-Likely		50%
	Impact	1.1 Limited	2.3 Significant-Critical	40%
CONSEQUENCE	Warning Time	4 Short	4 Short	5%
	Duration	1 Short	3 Long	5%
TOTAL RISK SCORE		2.09	2.67	

